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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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	Application No.	Applicant(s)			
	10/051,555	MINDRUM, GORDON SCOTT			
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit			
•	Tadesse Hailu	2173			
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply					
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).					
Status					
Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>27 Jul.</u> This action is FINAL . 2b) ☑ This Since this application is in condition for allowan closed in accordance with the practice under Expression.	action is non-final. ace except for formal matters, pro				
Disposition of Claims					
 4) Claim(s) 39-47,51 and 65-76 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 39-47,51 and 65-76 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. 					
Application Papers					
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.					
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119					
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 					
Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview Summary				
Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal Pa 6) Other:				

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the Amendment entered July 16, 2007 with the filing of RCE (7/2/07) for the above-identified application.

2. The pending claims 39-47, 49, 51, and 65-76 are examined herein as follows.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 39-47, 49, 51, and 65-76 have been considered but are most in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 4. <u>Claims 39-47, 51, 65-69 and 75-76 are rejected less than 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Assisi (U.S. Pat. No. 5,696,488) in view of Bexten (US Pat No 6,205,133), Evans, III (U.S. Pat. No. 5,732,231) and Pearlson (US 5,271,669). With regard to claim 39:</u>

Assisi discloses a method, system and storage, for storing, retrieving and presenting personal or biographical information relating to and/or from a deceased person.

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Assisi further describes that a user of the communication apparatus or wireless device 3 communicates or requests and access biological information (life pack) associated with the deceased person (located at the gravestone 1) with the control storage chamber 7 (or kiosk) located at the cemetery.

Assisi discloses a system (see FIGURE) for presenting information relating to a deceased person (see Abstract), the system comprising:

a computer readable medium (6) comprising data stored, representing biographical information (personal information) relating to a deceased person, wherein the deceased person is associated with a cemetery (column 1, lines 31-62).

Assisi further describes a processor (5) in communication with the computer readable medium (6), wherein the processor is operable to receive a request (via data cable 4) for at least a portion of the biographical information relating to the deceased person from a user (user of communication apparatus 3) located within the cemetery (see column 1, lines 63-column 2, lines 6, FIGURE).

Assisi further describes a device (3) operable to present at least a portion of the requested biographical information to the user (user of communication apparatus 3) located within the cemetery (see FIGURE), wherein the transmitter (2) is further operable to transmit at least a portion of the requested biographical information relating to the deceased person to the device (3) in response to the request for at least a portion of the biographical information relating to the deceased person (see Abstract, column 2, lines 23-30, FIGURE). Furthermore, Assisi teaches that the user/visitor of the portable

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device can gain access to the storage device and may call up there from desired information for display or direct processing.

Assisi further discloses a control storage chamber comprising one or more of the computer readable medium (6), the computer/processor (5), and the receiver/transmitter connected at the computer by data cable 4.

Assisi further discloses a transmitter (2) in communication with the processor (5), the transmitter (2) being operable to transmit at least a portion of the requested biographical information relating to the deceased person, wherein the transmitter/receiver is located within the cemetery. Assisi further teaches the transmitter/receiver is operable to transmit biographical information relating to a deceased person, the portable device receives desired information for display or direct processing, that is the user can gain access information related to a deceased person (Abstract, column 1, lines 31-46, column 2, lines 15-22, FIGURE), but accessing information via transmitter related to a plurality of deceased persons (plural) is not shown.

Thus, in claims languages Assisi is silent in describing, "...the receiver is operable to receive requests for biographical information relating to a plurality deceased <u>persons</u> (plural); and similarly Assisi is silent in describing "...the transmitter is operable to transmit biographical information relating to a plurality of deceased <u>persons</u> (plural).

Assisi meets the limitations of claim 39 except that it employs a transmitter/receiver operable to transmit biographical information relating to a deceased person rather than transmitter/receiver operable to transmit/receive biographical

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information relating to deceased <u>persons</u>. Furthermore, Assisi seems to illustrate that more than one transmitter/receiver is needed to gain access to each deceased person in the graveyard, that is, each gravestone seems to be equipped with transmitter/receiver.

Bexten, on the other hand discloses a single central hub radio communication transmitter/receiver for use in radio communication with multiple distributed radio transceivers (portable devices)(Fig. 1). Bexten and Assisi are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor, accessing information resource via radio communication. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to replace the plurality of transmitter/receiver seems to be located at each gravestone with a central transmitter/receiver of Bexten because centralizing resources radio communication (e.g., transmitter/receiver) at the hub would maximizes overall system capacity, flexibility, and resource usage efficiency while minimizing the overall system cost (Bexten, Abstract). Furthermore the central transmitter/receiver enables the transceiver users to gain access to several information resources, without limited to a single resource. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Bexten with Assisi with little modification (that is, placing Assisi's transmitter/receiver at the central hub) to obtain the invention as specified in claim 39.

The combined art of Assisi and Bexten does not clearly describe that the life pack includes "instructions, to the person associated with the deceased person, regarding how to provide the requested particular types of biographical information relating to the deceased person in response to the requests" as required in claim 39.

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Evans, on the other hand describes that a relative or a person associated with the deceased person, using a display terminal for use in funeral homes and by following the displayed instructions (Fig. 5), may provide information to a requested party or immediate family in any appropriate format, such as CD-Rom, Video Cassette or printout. (column 5, lines 22-48).

Evans also describes that at least a portion of the transmitted information comprises information submitted by the person associated with the deceased person (e.g., immediate family) in response to one or more of the requests of the life pack (column 2, lines 1-20).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the providing of instructions in an appropriate format as described in Evans (e.g., col. 2, lines 21-47) and further incorporating transmitting information submitted from the immediate family with the information processing of Assisi in view of Bexten so that requestor will be receiving information in a desired format, such as s, for example, CD-Rom, Video Cassette or printout and information from the immediate family. (column 5, lines 22-48).

Furthermore, while Assisi in view of Bexten discloses control chamber storage, i.e., storage of communication device including computers comprising a computer readable medium storage (6) and transmission (2) located with a cemetery, but the combined art fall short naming this storage as an office, cemetery office or a kiosk. However, Evans III (Evans) discloses an apparatus located in a funeral establishment located outside the funeral parlor (column 3, lines 25-31) so

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that visitors coming to view the deceased and comfort his or her family can view images of the deceased, listen to audio of or about the deceased, and read textual information about the deceased, wherein information is presented to the user in a terminal display designed in a kiosk fashion (Figs. 2-4, column 2, lines 50-67, column 3, lines 42-67).

Evans and Assisi in view of Bexten are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor, presenting information to a user. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide the control storage chamber (7) of Assisi in view of Bexten with the *terminal display* of Evans because such *terminal display* at least allows entry or retrieval of information about the deceased from distant sites (e.g., Internet) so family members and others unable to visit the deceased can have information (Evans, column 2, lines 14-20).

While the combined art discloses a kiosk (see Evans Figs. 2-4) within the cemetery including that the kiosk comprises a display operable to render biographical information relating to the deceased person (se Evans Figs. 2-4), the combined art, however does not explicitly describe that the kiosk is provided with a structure that is configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk, wherein the structure that is configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk is within the cemetery.

However, a kiosk usually includes a roof structure or overhead cover for the display and/or storage space. Such teaching is disclosed by Pearlson (see Abstract).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide an overhead or top cover housing structure to Evans' terminal display (that is arranged in kiosk fashion) so that the terminal display will be sheltered from sun and rain, etc and avoid exposure to weather, dust, insects and animals.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Assisi, Bexten and Evans with Pearlson to obtain the invention as specified in claim 39.

With regard to claim 40:

Assisi in view of Bexten and Evans discloses that said computer readable medium (6) is located within the cemetery (Assisi, FIGURE).

With regard to claim 41:

Assisi further describes a computer readable medium (6) comprising data stored, representing biographical information (personal information) relating to a deceased person, wherein the deceased person is associated with a cemetery (Assisi, column 1, lines 31-62).

With regard to claim 42:

Assisi in view of Bexten and Evans further discloses that said deceased person's grave site (Assisi, FIGURE) Located within the cemetery, wherein at least one of the computer readable medium (6) or the transmission (2) location is Located at or proximate to the grave site (Assisi, FIGURE).

With regard to claim 43:

Assisi further describes a device (3) operable to present at least a portion of the requested biographical information to the user (user of communication apparatus 3) located within the cemetery (see **FIGURE**), wherein the transmitter (2) is further operable to transmit at least a portion of the requested biographical information relating to the deceased person to the device (3) in response to the request for at least a portion of the biographical information relating to the deceased person (Assisi, see Abstract, column 2, lines 23-30, FIGURE).

With regard to claim 44:

Assisi in view of Bexten and Evans further discloses that said computer readable medium (6 and/or 6') further includes biographical information relating to a plurality of deceased persons (Assisi, column 2, lines 16-22).

With regard to claim 45:

Assisi in view of Bexten and Evans further discloses that said device (3) comprises a portable electronic device (Assisi, Abstract, column 1, lines 52-62). With regard to claim 46:

Assisi in view of Bexten and Evans further discloses providing the portable electronic device (3) to the user for a limited time (Assisi, column 2, lines 3-6, column 2, lines 26-30).

With regard to claim 47:

Assisi in view of Bexten and Evans further discloses that portable electronic device comprises at least one of a personal digital assistant (3) or a laptop computer (Assisi, Abstract, column 1, lines 52-62).

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With regard to claim 51:

Assisi in view of Bexten and Evans further discloses that said at least a portion of the requested biographical information relating to the deceased person is transmitted to the device (3) wirelessly (Assisi, Abstract, column 1, lines 52-62).

With regard to claims 65 and 66:

Assisi in view of Bexten and Evans further discloses that at least a portion of the requested type of biographical information, such as text or picture, is provided to the person at communication device (3), associated with the deceased person electronically wirelessly (Assisi, FIGURE).

With regard to claim 67:

Assisi in view of Bexten and Evans disclose a device permitting a person associated with the deceased person to select a visual format for presentation of the biographical information transmitting for the requested family member or friend. The visual format can be presented in textual or pictorial (photographical) package or both formats. (Evans, Figs. 2-4).

With regard to claim 68:

Assisi in view of Bexten and Evans further discloses that the life pack can be prepared, packed and shipped in tangible hard copy materials including photo pictures, CD-Rom, and Video Cassette (Evans, column 5, lines 22-48).

With regard to claim 69:

Assisi in view of Bexten and Evans further discloses that he display of the kiosk comprises a touch screen operable to receive input from a user (Evans, Figs. 2-4).

With regard to claims 75 and 76:

Assisi discloses a method, system and storage, for storing, retrieving and presenting personal or biographical information relating to and/or from a deceased person.

Assisi further describes that a user of the communication apparatus or wireless device **3** communicates or requests and access biological information (life pack) associated with the deceased person (located at the gravestone 1) with the control storage chamber 7 (or kiosk) located at the cemetery.

Assisi discloses a system (see **FIGURE**) for presenting information relating to a deceased person (see Abstract), the system comprising:

Assisi further describes a computer readable medium (6) comprising data stored, representing biographical information (personal information) relating to a deceased person, wherein the deceased person is associated with a cemetery (column 1, lines 31-62).

Assisi further describes a processor (5) in communication with the computer readable medium (6), wherein the processor is operable to receive a request (via data cable 4) for at least a portion of the biographical information relating to the deceased person from a user (user of communication apparatus 3) located within the cemetery (see column 1, lines 63-column 2, lines 6, FIGURE).

Assisi further describes a device (3) operable to present at least a portion of the requested biographical information to the user (user of communication apparatus 3) located within the cemetery (see **FIGURE**), wherein the transmitter (2) is further

operable to transmit at least a portion of the requested biographical information relating to the deceased person to the device (3) in response to the request for at least a portion of the biographical information relating to the deceased person (see Abstract, column 2, lines 23-30, FIGURE). Furthermore, Assisi teaches that the user/visitor of the portable device can gain access to the storage device and may call up therefrom desired information for display or direct processing, but Assisi does not clearly show that the user can gain access information related to one or more deceased persons (plural).

Assisi further discloses a control storage chamber comprising one or more of the computer readable medium (6), the computer/processor (5), and the receiver/transmitter connected at the computer by data cable 4.

Assisi further discloses a transmitter (2) in communication with the processor (5), the transmitter (2) being operable to transmit at least a portion of the requested biographical information relating to the deceased person, wherein the transmitter/receiver is located within the cemetery. Assisi further teaches the transmitter/receiver is operable to transmit biographical information relating to a deceased person, the portable device receives desired information for display or direct processing, that is the user can gain access information related to a deceased person (Abstract, column 1, lines 31-46, column 2, lines 15-22, FIGURE), but accessing information via transmitter related to a plurality of deceased persons (plural) is not shown.

Thus, in claims languages Assisi is silent in describing, " ... the receiver is operable to receive requests for biographical information relating to a plurality deceased

<u>persons</u> (plural); and similarly Assisi is silent in describing "...the transmitter is operable to transmit biographical information relating to a plurality of deceased <u>persons</u> (plural).

Assisi meets the limitations of claims 52 and 61 except that it employs a transmitter/receiver operable to transmit biographical information relating to a deceased person rather than transmitter/receiver operable to transmit/receive biographical information relating to deceased persons. Furthermore, Assisi seems to illustrate that more than one transmitter/receiver that is needed to gain access to each deceased person in the graveyard, that is, each gravestone seems to be equipped with transmitter/receiver.

Bexten, on the other hand discloses a single central hub radio communication transmitter/receiver for use in radio communication with multiple distributed radio transceivers (portable devices)(Fig. 1). Bexten and Assisi are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor, accessing information resource via radio communication. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to replace the plurality of transmitter/receiver seems to be located at each gravestone with a central transmitter/receiver of Bexten because centralizing resources radio communication (e.g., transmitter/receiver) at the hub would maximizes overall system capacity, flexibility, and resource usage efficiency while minimizing the overall system cost (Bexten, Abstract). Furthermore the central transmitter/receiver enables the transceiver users to gain access to several information resources, without limited to a single resource. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Bexten

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with Assisi with little modification (that is, placing Assisi's transmitter/receiver at the central hub) to obtain the invention as specified in claims 52 and 61.

Furthermore while Assisi in view of Bexten discloses control chamber storage, i.e., storage of communication device including computers comprising a computer readable medium storage (6) and transmission (2) located with a cemetery, but the combined art fall short naming this storage as an office, cemetery office or a kiosk.

However, Evans III (Evans) discloses an apparatus located in a funeral establishment located outside the funeral parlor (column 3, lines 25-31) so that visitors coming to view the deceased and comfort his or her family can view images of the deceased, listen to audio of or about the deceased, and read textual information about the deceased, wherein information is presented to the user in a terminal display designed in a kiosk fashion (Figs. 2-4, column 2, lines 50-67, column 3, lines 42-67).

Evans and Assisi in view of Bexten are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor, presenting information to a user.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide the control storage chamber (7) of Assisi in view of Bexten with the terminal display of Evans because such terminal display at least allows entry or retrieval of information about the deceased from distant sites (e.g., Internet) so family members and others unable to visit the deceased can have information (Evans, column 2, lines 14-20).

While the combined art discloses a kiosk (see Evans Figs. 2-4) within the cemetery including that the kiosk comprises a display operable to render biographical

information relating to the deceased person (se Evans Figs. 2-4), the combined art, however does not explicitly describe that the kiosk is provided with a structure that is configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk, wherein the structure that is configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk is within the cemetery.

However, a kiosk usually includes a roof structure or overhead cover for the display and/or storage space. Such teaching is disclosed by Pearlson (see Abstract).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide an overhead or top cover housing structure to Evans' terminal display (that is arranged in kiosk fashion) so that the terminal display will be sheltered from sun and rain, etc and avoid exposure to weather, dust, insects and animals.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Assisi, Bexten and Evans with Pearlson to obtain the invention as specified in claims 75 and 76.

5. Claim 70 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the cited art as applied to claim 39 above, and further in view of Boggio (5,404,343).

The cited art, Assisi, Bexten, Evans and Pearlson do not show that the structure that is configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk forms part of a mausoleum within the cemetery. Boggio however substantially discloses a structure, which overcomes the shortcomings mentioned above. Boggio related to a grave marker or the like having an interface panel or button (Fig. 3) and audio system for audibly broadcasting at the burial or resting site of the remains of a human or animal.

Boggio's marker with attached audio system may also be fashioned as the door or an attached component of the door of a mausoleum (Fig, 4, #14). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate any structure (such as Boggio's) configured to provide overhead cover for the display in the method taught by the above references because such structure does not serve as a limitation on the claim or functionally relate to the steps in the method claimed.

6. Claim 71 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the cited art as applied to claim 39 above, and further in view of Chandler, Jr., et al. (4,835,983).

The cited art, Assisi, Bexten, Evans and Pearlson do not show that the structure that is configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk has built-in heating and air conditioning.

Chandler, Jr., et al. disclose a kiosk with air-conditioning and heater (Abstract, Fig. 5).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate any structure (such as Chandler's) configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk that has built-in heating and air conditioning in the method taught by the above references because such structure does not serve as a limitation on the claim or functionally relate to the steps in the method claimed.

7. Claim 72 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the cited art as applied to claim 39 above, and further in view of Couvrette (4,813,475).

The cited art, Assisi, Bexten, Evans and Pearlson do not show that the structure that is configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk comprises a steel exterior. Couvrette discloses a metal (or steel) structure housing a kiosk (column 1, lines, 38-42, Figs. 1-3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate any structure (such as Couvrette's) configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk that comprises a metal or steel exterior in the method taught by the above references because such structure does not serve as a limitation on the claim or functionally relate to the steps in the method claimed.

8. Claim 73 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the cited art as applied to claim 39 above, and further in view of McCarty et al (5,946,660).

The cited art, Assisi, Bexten, Evans and Pearlson do not show that the structure that is configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk comprises security sensors. McCarty on the other hand discloses a structure housing a kiosk wherein the kiosk comprises a camera (or security sensor) (Fig. 3 or 4A, #32).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate any structure (such as McCarty's) configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk that comprises a camera in the method taught by the above references because such structure does not serve as a limitation on the claim or functionally relate to the steps in the method claimed.

9. Claim 74 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the cited art as applied to claim 39 above, and further in view of Eisler (4,150,551).

The cited art, Assisi, Bexten, Evans and Pearlson do not show that the structure that is configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk an awning. Eisler on the other hand discloses a kiosk structure (Fig. 18) including awning (Figs. 12-14) that serves for cooling and covering the kiosk. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate any structure (such as Eisler's) configured to provide overhead cover for the display of the kiosk that comprises a awning in the method taught by the above references because despite the type of structure is used such structure does not serve as a limitation on the claim, this is because the structure claimed is not processed by the computer or it does not alter the process steps or it is not functionally related to the steps in the method claimed.

CONCLUSION

10. Examiner has pointed out particular references contained in the prior arts of record in the body of this action for the convenience of the applicant. Although the spec6ed citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and Figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the response, to consider fully the entire references as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior arts or disclosed by the examiner.

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11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Tadesse Hailu, whose telephone number is (571) 272-4051. The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 10:30 – 7:00 ET. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Kincaid, Kristine, can be reached at (571) 272-4063 Art Unit 2173 and 2174.

12. An inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Examiner Tadesse Hailu Art Unit 2173 – Operator Interface 8/22/07

PRIMARY EXAMINER